

Summer 2016

Newsletter

# ABSWE

Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners 334/242-5860 or 1-888-879-3672

**Board Members:**

**Esophia Clayborn, LCSW**  
Chair

**Jennifer Venable-  
Humphrey, LCSW**  
Vice-Chair

**Amy E. Smith, LGSW**  
Secretary

**LaShea Cobb-England,  
LCSW**

**Marilyn Latham Colson,  
LCSW**

**Sharrie Cranford, LGSW**

**Valeri White, LBSW**

***Individual Highlights:***

Board Member Openings	2
Exam Pass Rate	3
Login Information	4
Public Hearing	4

**Upcoming State  
Holiday's**

September 5, 2016  
October 10, 2016  
November 11, 2016  
November 24, 2016  
December 26, 2016

Please note that the Board Office will be closed on the days posted above.

## View from the Chair



By: Esophia Clayborn, LCSW, PIP

Greetings Professional Social Workers: It is with ambivalence that I extend this last view to you, as my second term as a board member is nearing an end. This

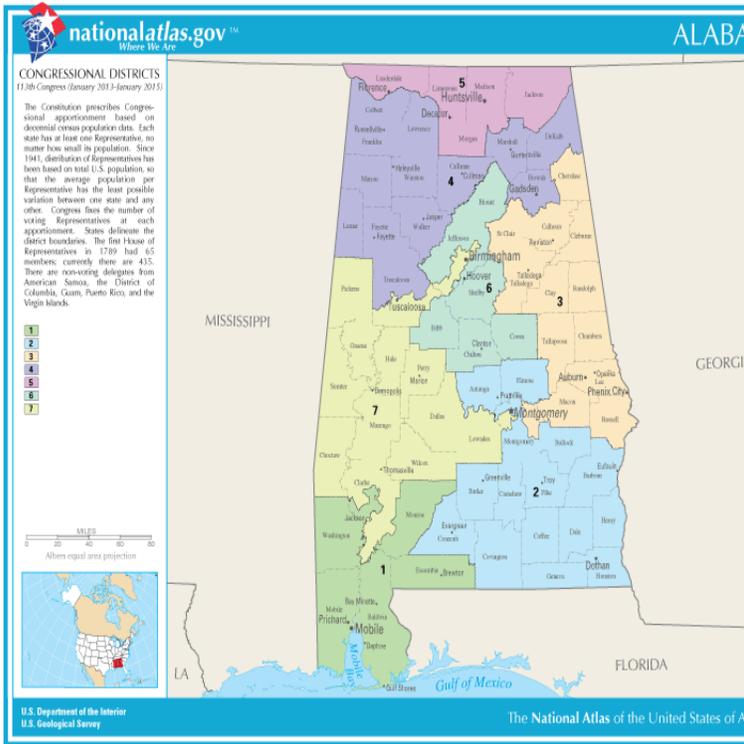
position of service has been fulfilling, enlightening, and occasionally challenging. There is no doubt in my mind that I would serve again in the future if there is a need. I encourage anyone who is presently a LCSW and interested in becoming a board member to check the bulletin section on the website for details.

Now . . .there is much to share so read closely and take notes or a screenshot. In an effort to respond to the many requests to make our licenses more portable, a dedicated team of professional, licensed social workers, attorneys, administrators and supportive others worked diligently and established 'change'. This change is represented in the form of SB82 that passed and will become law on September 1, 2016. What does this mean??? It means that Licensed Graduate Social Workers (LGSW) will now be identified as Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSW) and Licensed Certified Social Workers (LCSW) will be identified as Licensed Independent Clinical Social Workers (LICSW). The SB82 also means changes in how we address diagnostic documentation and has prompted additional updates to our current Administrative Code (2014).

There will be a Public Hearing on September 8, 2016 at 9:30am to discuss the Administrative Code changes. Any persons wishing to have specific questions addressed must

Continued on page 3

## Two Board Appointment Openings



There are two positions for Board Members coming open for appointments October 1, 2016. These two positions are for LCSW's (LICSW) in District's **2** and **5**. The current Board Members from these Districts are Jennifer Venable-Humphrey and Esophia Clayborn. Esophia Clayborn in District 5 has served two consecutive terms and is not able to return, Jennifer is serving her first. If you are a LCSW from one of these Districts and are interested in serving on the Board you may start collecting letters of nomination from fellow social workers from your District. The Governor makes the final selection from the list of the persons with the most nominations for each District. The Governor's Office requests that we provide them with at least three names for each District.

If you're a LCSW living in one of these districts, and this is something you might be interested in doing, you may start collecting letters nominating you for the Board positions. If this is not something you're interested in, you may

wish to submit a letter on behalf of someone else or for the current member eligible to return. We'll accept nomination letters through September 1, 2016. We submit the top three names for each District who receive the most letters to the Governor. The Governor makes the final decision and appoints the Board Member for each district.

### The duties of the Board are:

- To protect the public from incompetent, unethical and unlawful social work practice.
- To enforce qualification standards for all levels of licensure and certification.
- To delineate unlawful conduct through disciplinary procedures against practitioners who violate applicable laws or rules.

The Board meets every other month for about 4-6 hours.

### Nomination Requirements:

- The person being nominated and the person doing the nominating must both live in the same District.
- You **are** allowed to nominate yourself.
- The person making the nomination must be a licensed social worker.
- Nomination letters must be mailed or hand delivered, you may collect the letters and send them in all together – *faxed or emailed letters are not acceptable.*

The Board appointments are for three years starting October 1, 2016 going through September 30, 2019. *No experience necessary* training offered on the job! There is no pay for serving under this capacity, but you are reimbursed for in-state and out-of-state travel expenses at the same rate as a state employee.

**Continued View from the Chair.....**

submit requests by September 7th, so that the hearing will be dignified and meet the comprehensive needs of its intent. The SB82 details and proposed administrative code changes are currently available on the website for your consideration prior to the hearing.

As a means of review, please do not forget that licensed professionals are responsible for maintaining their licenses. In Alabama, we do so by acquiring contact hours to include the Mandate Child Abuse Reporting training, (3) hours of Ethics training with each renewal, Immigration Compliance, appropriate supervision, and on-going review of the ABSWE website. Before seeking a change in your licensure status, do the research through the website or call the state board office to ask questions. Life circumstances happen to all of us, but policies are put in place to guide, govern, and preserve the profession.

Again, it has been an honor to fulfill the appointment of a six (6) year commitment to the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners. I have made every effort to exemplify my role with integrity and the mindfulness of the extreme importance of my duties. Thank you District V and thank you Alabama.

Esophia Clayborn, LCSW, PIP-BCD



**When will I Receive a New License?**

Due to the recent title changes to the LGSW and LCSW, new licenses will be needed. The Board will be sending new licenses out at the time of your renewal if you are active. A new license will be sent to those who are inactive when they choose to reactivate.

**2015 Pass Reports for Licensing Exam**

**Alabama Pass Rate**

Exam Type	Number of Exam	Pass Rate Number	Pass Rate Percentage
<b>Bachelor</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Time	149	94	63.1
Repeats	63	20	31.7
Total	212	114	53.8

<b>Masters</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Time	218	156	71.6
Repeats	122	36	29.5
Total	340	192	56.5

<b>Clinical</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Time	95	66	69.5
Repeats	48	15	31.3
Total	143	81	56.6

**North American Pass Rate**

<b>Bachelor</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Time	4,059	3,145	77.5
Repeats	865	351	40.6
Total	4,924	3,496	71.0

<b>Masters</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Time	15,145	12,198	80.5
Repeats	4,573	1,320	28.9
Total	19,718	13,518	68.6

<b>Clinical</b>			
1 <sup>st</sup> Time	12,981	9,872	76.0
Repeats	5,284	1,845	34.9
Total	18,265	11,717	64.2

**Board of Social  
Work Examiners**

100 N Union Street  
Suite 736  
Montgomery AL  
36104  
Or  
PO Box 301620  
Montgomery, AL  
36130-1620  
PHONE:  
(334) 242-5860  
or  
1-888-879-3672

**Board Staff:**

Brenda W. Holden  
Executive Director

Karen Hester  
Adm. Asst./Part-time

Robin Smith  
Examination  
Coordinator

Cassandra Burrell  
Registration  
Coordinator

**Login Information to Your Data in Our Computers**

The process to allow you to log into your data information we have in our computers is now working. The power is in your hands now! The letters we mailed to everyone provided you with the login information. If you did not receive a letter from the board explaining the login along with your temporary password, please let us know. We mailed the letters to the last known address for all licensees. Although the letter explains that you can list your CE information this is not the only thing, and because you do list your CE it does not mean you do not have to supply the CE information when you renew your license. At this time the two are not connected, but we hope to have all this working together in the future.

**Public Hearing for Administrative Code Changes**

The Board has posted with the Legislative Reference Office proposed changes to the Administrative Code. These changes can be viewed on our webpage under "News". The Public Hearing is set for September 8, 2016 at 9:30AM here in Montgomery at the RSA Union Building on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Suite 300. Public Hearings as well as Board meetings are open to the public. Anyone interested in attending may do so. However, to be allowed to address the Board at a Board meeting you must be on the agenda, and visitors to a Board meeting are not to express their opinions unless they are asked. At a Public Hearing you are invited to express your opinion but there is a time limit. You may also submit your concerns in writing. These may be mailed to the Board's office address. For the Board to consider your concerns at the Public Hearing, we must receive them no later than September 7<sup>th</sup> by 4:30PM.

**PIP Certification**

Some of the proposed changes for the Administrative Code are pertaining to the PIP certification. The Board would like to eliminate Research and Administration from the PIP certification. They also recommended removing the renewal requirement and the need for the additional 20 hours of CE. Thus, making a certification that is valid for the duration of the LICSW. The practice methods would be clinical, social casework and community organization.